Presentation Outline

Background  SDG Implementation in Africa

Why  Africa Guideline and Template

Guideline  Methodology + Review of Existing Resources

Africa  VLR : The Process + The Template

Next  steps
Figure IV: Progress made since 2000 towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa

2000 | 2019 | Target 2030

1. No poverty
2. Zero hunger
3. Good health and well-being
4. Quality education
5. Gender equality
6. Clean water and sanitation
7. Affordable and clean energy
8. Decent work and economic growth
9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure
10. Reduced inequalities
11. Sustainable cities and communities
12. Responsible consumption and production
13. Climate action
14. Life below water
15. Life on land
16. Peace, justice and strong institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals

Legend:
- Good progress
- Slow progress
- Regression
- Insufficient data
- Data availability strength

Overall Progress in Implementation

WHERE IS AFRICA ON TRACK?

**On Track**

- 3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel
- 3.2.1 Under-five mortality
- 3.3.1 HIV Infections
- 3.6.1 Population covered by all vaccines in national programme
- 3.6.2 Official development assistance to medical research

6.a.1 Official development assistance for water and sanitation

- 6.b.1 Policies and procedures for participative water and sanitation management
- 7.a.1 International financial flows for research and production of renewable energy
- 14.5.1 Protected marine areas
- 15.a.1 Development assistance and public expenditure on biodiversity and ecosystems

**Reverse Trend**

- 1.a.2 Government spending on education and health
- 3.6.1 Road traffic deaths
- 4.5.1 Inequality indices for education indicators
- 6.2.1 Open defecation practice
- 7.2.1 Renewable energy share
- 9.2.1 Manufacturing value added

- 9.b.1 Medium and High tech industry value added
- 15.1.1 Forest area
- 15.5.1 Red-list Index
- 16.2.2 Detected victims of human trafficking
- 16.5.2 Public service bribery (business)
- 17.1.1 Tax revenue

**At the current rate of progress, Africa will most likely achieve 13 SDG indicators by 2030**

**WHERE SHOULD AFRICA REVERSE TRENDS?**

Africa is going in the wrong direction on 12 SDG indicators

Source: UNECA
## Benefits of VLR Production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Des- siloing</th>
<th>Data-led policy</th>
<th>Shared language</th>
<th>Stakeholder Mobilization</th>
<th>Multi Stakeholder partnerships</th>
<th>Highlight strength and weakness</th>
<th>Monitoring progress</th>
<th>Transparent Accountability</th>
<th>Peer Review</th>
<th>Boost regional production</th>
<th>Global citizenship</th>
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Why Africa VLR Guidelines

1. Member state request at ARFSD
2. Contextual specificity
3. Regional specificities of Agenda 2063
4. Need to accelerate progress
5. VLR accelerate overall progress
6. Peer Review Mechanism
Why Africa VLR Guidelines

Member state request at ARFSD

- ARFSD Discussions highlighted role of VLRs in accelerating the implementation, follow-up and review of both agendas
- Potential of VLRs in ensuring ownership, accountability and commitment from all stakeholders
- Promoting meaningful engagement and the mobilization of resources and capacity
- Specific request made from African Member States to UNECA to design a template for peer-reviewed VLRs in Africa that is aligned with VNRs
Why Africa VLR Guidelines

2 Contextual specificity

- Strong rural-urban linkages
- Highest urban growth rate
- Most of the continent's urbanisation yet to take place
- Non-urban localities are producing local reviews
- Standard guideline and template would enhance coherence
Why Africa VLR Guidelines

Regional specificities of Agenda 2063

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>An integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>An Africa of good governance, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>A peaceful and secure Africa</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and young people, and caring for children</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner</td>
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Source: African Union Commission (2014)
Why Africa VLR Guidelines

4 Need to accelerate progress in the region

- While there has been some progress, the region is not on track to meeting Agenda 2030 nor the aspirations of Agenda 2063
- Alignment between national and sub-national development frameworks
- Number of SNGs in region are interested in conducting a local review
- And many are in some stage of localizing the SDGs to local plans.
- Offers guidance and best practices to spur further VLR production in the region.
Why Africa VLR Guidelines

5

VLRs accelerate progress overall

- Few VLRs produced in Africa

- VLRs are emerging as an inclusive and participatory instrument for collaboration

- Important tool for communication and spearheading dialogue across government and with local actors, including grassroots institutions and citizens.
Why Africa VLR Guidelines

6 Peer Review Mechanism

- Platform for peer review
- Learning and sharing
Guideline Methodology

- Desk Review
  - existing guidelines
  - handbooks
  - VLRs

- Partnership between UNECA, UN-Habitat and UCLG-Africa
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCOPE</th>
<th>VNR</th>
<th>VLR</th>
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<td>GLOBAL UN</td>
<td><strong>UN DESA</strong> HLPF Handbook for the preparation of VNRs 2018-2021</td>
<td><strong>UCLG UN-HABITAT</strong> Guideline for VLRs 2020: Comparative Analysis of Existing VLRs</td>
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<td><strong>UN DESA</strong> Global Guiding Elements for VLRs of SDG Implementation</td>
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<td>GLOBAL Non-UN</td>
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<td><strong>Brookings Institution</strong> A VLR Handbook for Cities prepared by Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College</td>
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<td>REGIONAL UN</td>
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<td><strong>UN ESCAP</strong> Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines on Voluntary Local Reviews 2020</td>
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<td><strong>UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL</strong> VLRs: A Handbook for UK Cities</td>
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<td><strong>SHIMOKAWA METHOD FOR VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW</strong>, 2020 Institute for Global Environmental Strategies</td>
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Africa VLR: The Template

- Simple
- Easy to follow
- Best practices
- Lessons learned
- Guiding Questions
Africa VLR: The Process

- Data Collection, Write up and Analysis
- Prioritization
- Preparation, Visioning and Stakeholder Mobilization
- Peer Review

- Integration, Monitoring and Implementation
- Publication Dissemination
- Stakeholder Engagement

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Phase I

- Peer Review
- Phase II

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Phase III
Africa VLR Guideline - a few Guiding Principles

- **Find out where you are and define a way forward.** VLRs are a tool for monitoring and measuring progress, but they are also a mechanism for planning local action. A lack of data should not hold you back and start with what you have.

- **VLRs are a tool for telling your local story.** VLRs allow local and regional governments to tell their story and present local priorities.

- **VLRs represent a process, not just a product.** The VLR is a process and not just a report and the process is engaging, participatory and unbound by a defined start and end dates.

- VLRs should promote multi-stakeholder engagement that incorporates principles of human rights, gender equality and leaving no one behind.

- **VLRs enhance linkages between national and local levels of government.**
Africa VLR: The Template

Phase I

- Methodological Processes: preparatory work, literature review and visioning
- SDGs and Agenda 2063 - Linking priorities
- Stakeholder engagement planning
- Institutional Model for leading review
- Roadmap and work plan
Africa VLR: The Template

Phase II

- Data collection, analysis and write up
- Validation, Publication & dissemination
Africa VLR: The Template

Phase III

- Integration, Monitoring, Implementation and Follow-up
- Conclusion
Next Steps

1. Finalization of Guideline and Template
2. Next Round of VLRs
3. Operationalize Africa Guideline and Template online training course, dissemination webinars and tailored trainings for specific local governments
Thank you